

MACHINE LEARNING BY CONSTRUCTION OF A DECISION FUNCTION

[ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE]

5 Data processing apparatus is provided for
evaluating answers to respective query items considered
to be represented by respective points within a region
of feature space, and the apparatus comprises an input
(10) which receives such a query item. The region is
subdivided into subregions according to at least first
and second subdivisions. A subregion identifying
10 portion (20) identifies, for each such subdivision of
the region, which subregion of the subdivision contains
the point representing the received query item. A
partial answer retrieval portion (30) has access when
the apparatus is in use to a store (40) of
15 precalculated partial answers for at least some the
subregions of the subdivisions, and retrieves from the
store the partial answers for the or each identified
subregion that is present in the store. An answer
calculation portion (50) calculates an answer to the
20 received query item based on the retrieved partial
answers, and an output (60) outputs the calculated
answer.

[Fig. 14]

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